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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/812,118	03/16/2001	Gustavo R. Rivera	COVA-001/00US	3308

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EXAMINER

CUFF, MICHAEL A

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3627

DATE MAILED: 01/30/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/812,118

Applicant(s)

RIVERA ET AL.

Examiner

Michael Cuff

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 22 September 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-38 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-38 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Affidavit and Response to 1.105 Request

Applicant's Affidavit, submitted 9/22/05, has been received and accepted. A new non-final rejection has been provided.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-38 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Daniels et al.

Daniels et al. shows all of the limitations of the claims except for specifying applying a second translation map and providing the destination party native format and storing purchase order in a central repository.

Daniels et al. shows a customizable bidirectional EDI translation system. From column 10, a sponsor client 20 will supply user client 30 with electronic forms application 35 including an electronic purchase order such as is represented by the GUIs shown in FIGS. 4a-4b. User client 30 will navigate through the GUIs corresponding to the electronic purchase order and fill in information fields 42. Once complete, translator module 352 (electronically receives purchase order in an originating party native format, hosted application) translates (applying first map) the

purchase order into EDI (neutral format). If electronic forms application 35 receives a transmission, which is in an EDI format, which is not recognized, or does not correspond to an electronic form contained within electronic forms application 35 (prior to providing the destination party native format comparing/verifying product identifier and quantity, included in the form, see figure 4b), an error message will be generated (notifying purchase order originating party).

Translation from EDI data to human readable data is also accomplished in a simplified manner. When a user client 30 receives an EDI communication (invoice, buy native format), the communication is forwarded (identifying an executable process) to translator module 352 by communications and routing module 353. Translation module 352 reads each transaction set header to determine the type of transaction and generates a GUI corresponding to the identified transaction set. When the appropriate GUI has been generated, the translator module 352 parses the EDI transmission into separate data elements and uses the data elements to populate the information fields in the GUI. The error message can take any suitable form, for example, an on-screen message that the transmission could not be translated, in combination with an automatic reply to the sender that the transmission was in an incompatible format.

Daniels et al. teaches the translator module 352 converts human-readable data to EDI data and EDI data to human-readable data (second translation map). Column 4 teaches that the sponsor client is typically a computer, which is EDI capable. However, it would be obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art that the sponsor client would also

like to be able to see a purchase order in human-readable format (destination party native format) for quality purposes.

Based on the teaching of Daniels et al., it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, at the time the invention was made, to specify that the sponsor client would apply a second translation map and be provided with a human-readable (destination native format) purchase order in order to facilitate quality.

The examiner takes Official Notice that it is old and well known to collect and aggregate orders (store in a repository) in order to improve inventory management.

Based on the teaching above, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, at the time the invention was made, to specify that the sponsor client would store purchase orders in a repository in order to improve inventory management.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to all claims have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion


Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Michael Cuff whose telephone number is (571) 272-6778. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 to 5:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Alexander Kalinowski can be reached on (571) 272-6771. The fax phone

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number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

 1/23/06
Michael Cuff
January 23, 2006